

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 278159

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP, US (FORD, PRESIDENT GERALD R.)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO MANILA - JOINT COMMUNIQUE

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HABIB

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND COMMENT ONLY AND NOT REPEAT NOT
TO BE DISCUSSED WITH GOP, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT
COMMUNIQUE APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION TO WHITE HOUSE:

QUOTE DURING THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. GERALD R. FORD
AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. FERDINAND E.
MARCOS, THE TWO PRESIDENTS WELCOMED THE OPPORTUNITY TO RE-
NEW THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THEIR TWO NATIONS AND
TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF THEIR ALLIANCE IN THE LIGHT OF
CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE PACIFIC REGION.

QUOTE THEY AFFIRMED THAT SOVEREIGN EQUALITY, TERRITORIAL
INTEGRITY AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE OF ALL STATES ARE
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES SCRUPULOUSLY
RESPECT.

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QUOTE THEY CONFIRMED THE MUTUAL RESPECT FOR THE DIGNITY OF EACH NATION WHICH CHARACTERIZES THEIR FRIENDSHIP AS WELL AS THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES.

QUOTE THE TWO PRESIDENTS DISCUSSED THE MEASURES WHICH THEY AGREED WERE DESIRABLE TO ENHANCE THEIR RELATIONS, AND TO ADJUST THEM TO CURRENT CONDITIONS AND NEEDS.

QUOTE IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, THEY AGREED THAT IT WAS TIMELY TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS ON A NEW AGREEMENT ON TRADE, INVESTMENT AND RELATED MATTERS AS A MEANS TO ENHANCE ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THIS AGREEMENT WOULD MODERNIZE THE TERMS FOR CONDUCTING ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE END OF THE LAUREL-LANGLEY AGREEMENT AND GIVING DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY.

QUOTE IN THE FIELD OF SECURITY COOPERATION, THEY DECLARED THAT THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES IS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ANY COUNTRY, BUT IS INTENDED TO OPPOSE HEGEMONY, PRESERVE THE INDEPENDENCE AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF THEIR TWO PEOPLES, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE AND PROGRESS FOR ALL. THEY CONSIDERED THAT THE TREATY OF AUGUST 30, 1951 HAS ENHANCED THE DEFENSE OF BOTH COUNTRIES, HAS STRENGTHENED THE SECURITY OF THE PACIFIC REGION AND HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE MAINTENANCE OF WORLD PEACE. THEY AGREED THAT THE MILITARY BASES USED BY THE U.S. IN THE PHILIPPINES REMAIN IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING AN EFFECTIVE UNITED STATES PRESENCE IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC IN SUPPORT OF THESE MUTUAL OBJECTIVES.

QUOTE THEY AGREED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE UNITED STATES' USE OF MILITARY FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES SHOULD BE CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF A CLEAR RECOGNITION OF PHILIPPINE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE BASE AREAS AS DEFINED IN THE VARIOUS EXCHANGES OF NOTES BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS SINCE 1947. THE TWO PRESIDENTS AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE AN EARLY REVIEW OF THE STEPS NECESSARY TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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QUOTE PRESIDENT MARCOS EXPLAINED THE EFFORTS OF THE PHILIPPINES TO ATTAIN MILITARY SELF-RELIANCE. PRESIDENT FORD EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR THIS REALISTIC OBJECTIVE AND INDICATED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES, CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TOWARDS ITS ACHIEVEMENT.

QUOTE THE TWO PRESIDENTS REAFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO CONTINUE CLOSE ASSOCIATION ON ALL MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN. THEY CONCLUDED THAT THE TIES BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND THE U.S. REMAIN STRONG AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL.

QUOTE PRESIDENT FORD THANKED PRESIDENT MARCOS FOR THE MAGNIFICENT HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO HIM AND MRS. FORD. PRESIDENT MARCOS ACCEPTED PRESIDENT FORD'S INVITATION TO MAKE A RETURN VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME. END QUOTE.

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